



CITY OF DANBURY

155 DEER HILL AVENUE
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS
(203) 797-4550

To: Members of the GAE Committee

RE: Senate Bill 1051

We are writing to oppose SB1051.

This bill is like proposing a nonpartisan Unicameral Legislature and requiring all members to take a course in financial management. At first glance it sounds like a spectacular idea.

Imagine only having 36 members in the legislature. Think of the savings to the taxpayers, not only in legislative pay but staffing, insurance, travel expense, office space, etc not to mention the money saved in campaign funding (CEEP).

It would certainly make it easier to pass legislation. The Governor would only have to deal with one chamber. Everyone would be a fiscal genius because they had a required degree or took a course in financial management. Just think we should never have a budget deficit.

Sounds great but where are the checks and balances? Where is the diversity?

The current legislative system works well. Checks and balances are currently in play.

The same is true with two elected Registrars. The Danbury Registrars work in a completely impartial manner to ensure a smooth election

process. Our primary purpose is to service our voters and the integrity of the voting process.

Changing the system will not guarantee error free elections.

Maybe the change should come at the top. Will leaving a *very partisan* Secretary of the State in charge make the system better, we think not. Perhaps responsibility for elections should be given to the SEEC.

The Secretary of the State is reacting to problems in a couple of towns but never mentions **all the towns** with no problems. Instead of dealing with the problems she wants to change the whole system.

That would be like us asking to change to the whole General Assembly because we have a shortfall in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Doran
Republican Registrar of Voters

Margaret Gallo
Democratic Registrar of Voters